

Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP)

OMSA

Office of Minority Student Affairs

The University of Rochester is one of America's leading private research universities. It consistently ranks among the top in federally financed science, engineering, medical, and other research. Along with this rigor, Rochester operates on a personal scale, creating exceptional opportunities for undergraduate research, close work with faculty, and interdisciplinary study. The unique Rochester Curriculum invites students to study what they love with focus and flexibility. Through individual and collaborative efforts, our students and faculty improve themselves, each other, and our shared learning environment in the process.

The Office of Minority Student Affairs (OMSA) is the academic home of the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) Scholars, Early Connection Opportunity (ECO) Scholars, and historically underrepresented minority students (Black/African American, Hispanic/LatinX, Native American, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander).

OMSA is the overarching department that connects our students to various resources, on and off campus. We provide our students with the social capital needed to ensure academic, professional, and personal success.

Program

The Higher Education Opportunity Program is specifically designed to serve students of diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds. The program is especially attractive for those students who, because of their economic and educational backgrounds, may not have considered attending the University. Jointly sponsored by the University of Rochester and the New York State Education Department since its inception in 1969, the HEOP office provides eligible students with a strong support network that includes academic advising, personal counseling, and substantial financial assistance.

Application Process

To apply, each applicant must

- Submit a University of Rochester application for admission via one of the following: Common Application, College Greenlight Scholars Application, Coalition Application, or the Universal College Application.
- **COMPLETE AND SUBMIT BY FEBRUARY 15** all four necessary financial aid applications: (1) CSS Profile Application, (2) Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), (3) New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) Application, and (4) IDOC. Applications must be filed ON TIME for HEOP consideration.

Program Eligibility

First-Year College Student

- A resident of New York State
- A high school graduate or a recipient of a state-approved equivalency diploma
- Economically disadvantaged as defined by the State Education Department
- Meet the University of Rochester's HEOP academic criteria

The Admissions office and the OMSA advisors are trained in reading the applicants for HEOP consideration holistically. If you believe you would benefit from HEOP and have questions on any of the criteria, please contact OMSA directly with specific questions/concerns.

Transfer Student

- Prior participation in HEOP, EOP, SEEK, or College Discovery program at a New York State institution
- Meet the University of Rochester's HEOP academic criteria

"At the University of Rochester, our HEOP success story starts with our ability to attract motivated and talented students. It also includes a cadre of extremely committed educators who work with students throughout their academic careers, helping them fulfill their academic potential."

Norman B. Burnett

Assistant Dean, the College
Director, Office of Minority Student Affairs



Financial Aid

HEOP offers a generous financial aid package through a combination of scholarships, federal and state grants, low-interest student loans, and federal work-study. Tuition, room and board, books and supplies, and basic living expenses are all taken into consideration when determining the financial aid package.

For more information on the University of Rochester's financial aid programs, please call (585) 275-3226 or (800) 881-8234.

Services

The following services are provided at no cost to HEOP students

- Tutorial Assistance
- Advisor Support
- Study Skills Development
- Career Development Opportunities
- Academic Advising
- Educational Workshops & Symposia
- Leadership Training

HEOP Requirements

- Please complete and submit all Financial Aid forms by the February 15 deadline!
- Attend the Early Connection Opportunity (ECO) program
- Meet with assigned HEOP advisor on a regular basis
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress

Early Connection Opportunity (ECO)

The Early Connection Opportunity (ECO) program is designed to help students acquire the skills, attitudes, and social connections necessary to become successful University of Rochester students. The program provides supplemental academic support to selected first-year students during a four-week residential program that takes place in the summer before classes begin. Students admitted through the Higher Education Opportunity Program are required to attend as a condition of admission. There is no program cost to participating students. Students are responsible for their own transportation costs to and from Rochester as well as any personal expenses, including health/medical insurance.

In previous years, courses offered have included mathematics, writing, lecture courses in one of the University's academic divisions (humanities, social sciences, or natural sciences), and academic strategies and tactics. Courses are typically taught by University faculty and graduate instructors from various departments. Upon successful completion of the ECO coursework, students earn 4 credits.

Office of Minority Student Affairs Higher Education Opportunity Program

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